

Message Text

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DR. GRAHAM IS DIRECTOR, CULTURAL DIVISION, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. ALL INVITATIONS FOR GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS PASS THROUGH HIS OFFICE. IN HIS VISIT TO THE U.S. HE WISHES TO EXPERIENCE THE BROAD RANGE OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES THAT REFLECT OUR NATIONAL SPIRIT AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY. IN ADDITION, DR. GRAHAM IS A NOTED EDUCATOR AND SOCIOLOGIST (PHD LOND ON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS) HAS RECENTLY PUBLISHED A SIMPLIFIED EDITION OF HIS HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN GHANA FROM 1529 TO 1957. HE ESPECIALLY WOULD LIKE TO VISIT THE SAN FRANCISCO DANCERS' WORKSHOP AS WELL AS HOLLYWOOD. A TRIP TO DISNEYLAND WOULD SHOW HIM ONE ASPECT OF AMERICAN POPULAR CULTURE, WHILE THE LOS ANGELES ART CENTER OFFERS A GLIMPSE OF THE RICHNESS AND DEPTH OF OUR ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL INTERESTS. HE WISHES TO SEE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF AMERICAN LIFE SUCH AS THOSE AMERICANS WHO FOLLOW ALTERNATE LIFE STYLES INCLUDING COMMUNAL LIVING AS WELL AS AMERICAN INDIANS AND SPANISH-AMERICANS. VISITS TO THE SOUTHWEST AND SPECIFICALLY NEW MEXICO WHERE THREE CULTURES - ANGLO, INDIAN, AND SPANISH - MEET AND THRIVE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. HE IS INTERESTED, TOO, IN AMERICAN RELIGIOUS MINORITIES INCLUDING THE BLACK MUSLIMS AS WELL AS THOSE WHO FOLLOW MORE ESOTERIC UNCLASSIFIED

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RELIGIONS SUCH AS ZEN BUDDHISM.

DR. GRAHAM WISHES TO OBSERVE AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND MEET WITH HIS PEERS ON TOPICS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. HE IS PREPARED TO SPEAK ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS: (1) THE BEGINNINGS OF FORMAL EDUCATION IN GHANA; (2) THE TOTAL EFFECTS OF EDUCATIONAL GROWTH ON GHANAIAN SOCIETY IN THE 19TH CENTURY; (3) THE STRATIFICATION OF GHANAIAN SOCIETY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY; (4) ASPECTS OF THE AFRICAN SOCIAL SYSTEM INCLUDING MARRIAGE, RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, AND THE PLACE OF THE CHIEF IN GHANA. VISITS IN THIS CONNECTION MIGHT INCLUDE ATLANTA UNIVERSITY AND ITS ATTENDANT COLLEGES, AND TEACHERS' COLLEGE OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AND THE BANK STREET COLLEGE OF EDUCATION IN NEW YORK CITY. WHILE IN WASHINGTON DR. GRAHAM WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH SMITHSONIAN OFFICIALS INVOLVED WITH THE FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN FOLK LIFE. IN THE DEPARTMENT HE SHOULD MEET WITH GHANA DESK OFFICER ROGER MCGUIRE AS WELL AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARDSON WHO IS HIS AMERICAN EQUIVALENT AND CU/AF PERSONNEL.

IF AT ALL POSSIBLE HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET TWO AMERICANS IN PARTICULAR. THEY ARE BUCKMINSTER FULLER WHOM HE MET WHEN THE FORMER WAS AT UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI, IN THE MID 1960S AND DR. MARGARET MEADE WHOM HE MET WHILE ATTENDING A MEETING IN LONDON.

DR. GRAHAM VISITED THE U.S. BRIEFLY IN 1962 BUT HIS TRAVELS WERE LIMITED TO NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON. SINCE THEN HE HAS REPRESENTED HIS COUNTRY WIDELY ABROAD INCLUDING FOUR YEARS AT GHANA'S EMBASSY IN MOSCOW. ALTHOUGH WELL TRAVELED AND SOPHISTICATED, HE HAS HAD NO FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE U.S., ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA OF RACE RELATIONS, DURING THE LAST 14 YEARS.

DR. GRAHAM IS OUTGOING AND EAGER TO MEET WITH AMERICANS ON THEIR OWN GROUND, AND WELCOMES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR HOME HOSPITALITY.
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